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Bridgeport resident parent, Former Parent Council Member of ABCD Head Start Program. Selective Service Board Member, BCAC Member and a Volunteer on the Children's Health Task Force.

How is the recession affecting my family? I applied for food stamps on 10/24/09 it is now February 6, 2010 and I have had any notice of denial or approval for food stamps while my boys 6,5,2 including myself cannot even get emergency food stamps that is how the recession has affected my family I am unable to put enough food on the table.

The government agency DSS is not responding to my needs so much so I had to file a civil rights violation case in Federal Court on 2/5/10.

I cannot afford Day Care and neither can any new applicant for Care 4 Kids services because as of February 1, 2010 Care 4 kids are no longer funded. Therefore, any new applicant including myself will be placed on a waiting list. As much as the residents of Bridgeport who are aware of the hard work our representatives has allocated for Fairfield County is wonderful. However, it does not matter how much revitalization money that comes in it would make any difference because they cannot afford daycare. No day care or Care 4 Kids no job no seemingly upward mobility. That is how the recession has affected my family.

Submitted For The Record: Public Hearing for Children in the Recession 2/6/10 Bridgeport City Hall, Conference Rooms A-C 45 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport Connecticut

Karen Jackson aka Karen Fraser